

I claim:

1. A method of operating a building control system, the method comprising the steps of:  
  
receiving a user generated event at a field panel of the building control system;  
  
storing data regarding the received user generated event at the field panel; and  
  
transmitting the stored data regarding the received user event at the field panel to the workstation.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising, prior to transmitting the stored data: forwarding, by the field panel, notification of the received user generated event to a workstation of the building control system;  
  
receiving, by the field panel, a request from the workstation for data regarding the received user generated event.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of storing data regarding the user generated events at the field panel includes temporarily storing data regarding the user generated events at the field panel.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the user generated events are temporarily stored in a buffer.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of accepting a user generated event at a field panel of the building control system includes accepting a user generated event at a field panel via a user interface of the field panel.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
    appending identification data to the stored data regarding the received user event at the field panel.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the identification data includes user identification, time identification and field panel identification.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
    modifying a field panel database of the field panel with regard to the received user generated event.

9. In a building control system having a workstation and at least one field panel, a method of operating the building control system comprising the steps of:

detecting a user generated modification to a field panel data element by a field panel of the building control system;

storing data regarding the detected user generated modification to the field panel data element;

appending field panel modification data to the data regarding the detected user generated modification to the field panel data element to define stored appended field modification data; and

transmitting, by the field panel, the stored appended field modification data to the workstation.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of:

transmitting, by the field panel, notification of receipt of a user generated modification to the workstation.

11. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of:

modifying a field panel database with the data regarding a user generated modification to a field element of the field panel.

12. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of storing data regarding the detected user generated modification to the field panel data element includes

temporarily storing data regarding the user generated modification at the field panel.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the data regarding the user generated modification is temporarily stored in a buffer.

14. A building control system comprising:

a workstation; and

a field panel in communication with the workstation;

the field panel operative to receive a user generated field panel event, store data regarding the user generated field panel event, append identification data to the stored data regarding the user generated field panel event, and forward the data regarding the user generated field panel event and appended identification data to the workstation.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the field panel is further operative to forward notification of receipt by the field panel of a user generated field panel event to the workstation after appending the identification data to the stored data regarding the user generated field panel event.

16. The system of claim 14, wherein the field panel is further operative to temporarily store data regarding the user generated field panel event.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the data regarding the user generated field panel event is temporarily stored in a buffer.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the field panel is further operative to erase the buffer after forwarding the data regarding the user generated field panel event and appended identification data to the workstation

19. The system of claim 14, wherein the field panel is further operable to:  
store the data regarding the user generated field panel event in a buffer;  
and  
block subsequent user generated field panel events if the buffer is full.

20. The system of claim 19 wherein the buffer is operable to store data regarding multiple user-generated field panel events.